



Governor's Commission on Indian Affairs



Annual Report
2011



Mission Statement

The Maryland Commission on Indian Affairs works to serve as a statewide clearinghouse for information; to identify unmet social and economic needs in the native community; to support government education programs for American Indian youth; to provide support in the process of obtaining Recognition of State and Federal Indian Status; and to promote the awareness and understanding of historical and contemporary American Indian contributions in Maryland.

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OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR



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TTY USERS CALL VIA MD RELAY

A MESSAGE FROM GOVERNOR MARTIN O'MALLEY

Dear Fellow Marylanders,

It is with my best wishes that I present to you the 2011 Annual Report of the Maryland Commission on Indian Affairs (MCIA). This report describes the efforts and progress of the MCIA and the American Indian Community in working together to creating a better and brighter future.

With State Recognition of the Piscataway Conoy Tribe and the Piscataway Indian Nation, the MCIA continues to strive for the benefit of the American Indian Community as well as promote the welfare of its people. The opportunities for American Indians are continuously growing, and the MCIA In 2011 promoted many programs that strengthened the community in Maryland; especially in the areas of education, employment, business, and health.

I commend the staff and commissioners for their exemplary work in 2011, and give my best wishes for continues success in the years to come.

Sincerely,

Martin O'Malley
Governor

STATE OF MARYLAND

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

MARTIN O'MALLEY
GOVERNOR



ANTHONY G. BROWN
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

STATE OFFICE BUILDING, 15TH FLOOR
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BALTIMORE, MARYLAND 21201

GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF COMMUNITY INITIATIVES

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**MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE
GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF COMMUNITY INITIATIVES**

I would like to congratulate all of the Commissioners on the Maryland Commission on Indian Affairs (MCIA). There are only nine commissioners on the MCIA, and as a Commission, they meet more than any other ethnic commission. Your work in 2011 has been a watershed moment in so many areas: teacher training opportunities and a working with the Maryland Department of Education for a statewide curriculum on Native Americans, important progress on the reburial of Maryland's Native American remains with the first reburial at Jefferson Patterson Park, and of course, of the State recognition of the Piscataway indigenous tribes.

Thanks for your tireless leadership and forward-looking approach. I look forward to seeing what we will accomplish together in the years to come.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Izzy Patoka".

Israel C. "Izzy" Patoka,
Executive Director
Governor's Office of Community Initiatives

A MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR



Auriel A. Fenwick
Chair
Maryland Commission on Indian Affairs

Dear Friends:

It is an honor to present the 2011 Annual Report of the Maryland Commission on Indian Affairs. This report presents insight on the accomplishments, challenges and activities of the Commission during this past year.

The MCIA is fully committed to helping the American Indian groups residing in Maryland. We are persistent with our work with the Governor, Maryland State agencies, and the American Indian groups in order to address the needs of the communities. This past year, we have focused greatly on working with the Piscataway Conoy and the Piscataway Indian Nation to advance their State recognition. We have also hosted the Committee's first annual American Indian Heritage Month teacher training workshop, where Commissioner Wanda Lee brought together many individuals from various groups in order to put together a curriculum that focuses on the history and education of Native American studies. In conjunction with the community's growing interest in Native American studies and education, the Commission maintains its support of government education programs with the intention of serving American Indian youth in Maryland.

The Commission has also continued its work with Jefferson Patterson Park. With the help of the Maryland Historical Trust, MCIA's Working Group was able to repatriate American Indian remains at an appropriate place of repose. As the year progresses, three separate locations will also be selected for upcoming repatriation. We continue to work fervently with various groups and organizations to help make a difference in the Native community.

This report is only an overview of the Maryland Commission on Indian Affairs activities and involvement in the community. As such, the Commission wishes to express its gratitude to Governor Martin

O'Malley, and his administration for its continued support of the American Indian community as we strive to move forward the vision and mission of the Commission.

Sincerely,

Auriel A. Fenwick

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY







The Maryland Commission on Indian Affairs (MCIA) dedicated its efforts to five major initiatives during 2011: Recognition, Education, Repatriation, Health and Outreach. Below is a summary of the major work the MCIA accomplished in 2011:



- State Recognition of Maryland's indigenous tribes has been long overdue. State recognition is the priority of MCIA, and influences every major initiative the MCIA put forth in 2011. The MCIA took a monumental vote at the end of the year that recommended two Indigenous petitions closer to a long awaited State recognition.
- The MCIA Education Committee held its first annual American Indian Heritage Month teacher training workshop. During the workshop, over forty State educators learned the histories of the indigenous tribes of Maryland that will be utilized to teach Maryland's young people for years to come.
- The MCIA's Working Group for "An Appropriate Place of Repose" took on the responsibility for returning Maryland's indigenous ancestral remains to the earth that had been held for over eighty years at the Maryland Historical Trust.
- In addition, initiatives that have now become annual events prospered with continued and new partnerships. The Captain John Smith Chesapeake National Water Trail kept consultation with American Indians and sought a Maryland Commission on Indian Affairs representative to be on its board.
- The Minority Outreach and Technical Assistance (MOTA) Program, designed to eliminate health disparities for Native Americans, participated in the celebrations for American Indian Heritage Month in Maryland and used the month as an opportunity to bring more health screenings and health resources to the Native Americans in Maryland.



- MCIA continues to be a premier resource for insight and consultation from faith-based foundations, educational institutions, out-of-state tribal affiliations, the private sector and federal agencies. Over seventy lectures, presentations and cultural festivals were attended, with thirty-four events in November alone. The Department of Transportation, Department of Natural Resources and Department of Human Resources asked the MCIA members to teach “cultural competency” seminars to many of their inner agencies throughout the year.

A look at the Commissioners

| Commissioners | | Tribal Affiliation | County of Residence |
|----------------------------|---|--------------------|------------------------|
| Auriel Fenwick, Chair |  | Piscataway | Prince George's County |
| Thomas Windsor, Vice Chair |  | Piscataway | Prince George's County |
| Virginia Busby, Ph.D |  | Archeologist | Harford County |
| Kathryn Robbins-Fitzhugh |  | Nause-Waiwash | Dorchester County |
| Wanda Lee |  | Lumbee | Baltimore County |
| Sherry L. Majors |  | Accohannock | Somerset County |

| | | | |
|---------------|---|----------|-----------------|
| Guy Wells |  | Cherokee | Caroline County |
| Robert Killen |  | Pokomoke | Howard County |

Maryland Commission on Indian Affairs 2011 Meeting Schedule

| Date | Location | County |
|--------------|---|---------------|
| February 7 | Department of Natural Resources | Annapolis |
| March 7 | Department of Natural Resources | Annapolis |
| April 4 | Department of Natural Resources | Annapolis |
| May 2 | Dorchester Center for Performing Arts | Cambridge |
| June 6 | Department of Natural Resources | Annapolis |
| September 12 | Dorchester Center for the Performing Arts | Cambridge |
| October 3 | Department of Natural Resources | Annapolis |
| November 7 | Dorchester Center for the Performing Arts | Cambridge |

2011 State and Federal Agency Partner Meetings and Events

- **Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT)** selected two Native American individuals through the Maryland Commission on Indian Affairs' recommendation, to serve on the Minority Business Enterprise Advisory Committee (MBEAC). These members will advise MDOT on certification and recertification of minority and disadvantaged business enterprises.



- **Department of Human Services (DHR)** requested that the MCIA conduct a Native American Cultural Competency Training concerning Native American children in Maryland's Foster Care program. DHR also hosted a Native American Heritage Month celebration at its offices with the help of the MCIA staff.
- **The Department of Natural Resources (DNR)** provided the location for several of MCIA's public meetings and provides representation on MCIA Advisory Committee.



- **The Federal Department of Health & Human Services:** Requested the MCIA to participate in the Health and Human Services Action Plan to reduce racial and ethnic health disparities. The Assistant Director acted as an advisory member to the Action Plan.

- **Minority Outreach and Technical Assistance (MOTA) Program out of the Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene:** For the fourth straight year, Holy Cross Hospital served as the site for the Annual MCIA Pow-wow Health Fair. The event was held on November 29, 2011 in Silver Spring, Maryland. MCIA acts as a "partner" in the planning and execution of the event. Over 169 people participated in the event that included guest speakers, performers, health providers and health screenings. Tribal leader Natalie Proctor – Cedarville Band of Piscataway, Jason Warwick – Lumbee, Native America's People (NAP) consultant, and Celeste Swan – Powhatan, were among some of the dancers who filled the circle during the pow-wow. MOTA is a State-wide program funded by the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene. A \$3,500.00 grant was awarded to assist with the pow-wow Health Fair. MCIA has been able to combine cultural aspects and modern day health practices as a vehicle for prevention and community involvement. The MCIA has partnered with Holy Cross Hospital since 2008.



State Recognition of Indigenous Tribes

In 1976, the MCIA was established through the General Assembly to assist the Indigenous tribes, clans, bands and societies with education, repatriation and recognition. State law establishes a process by which the Governor may formally recognize by Executive Order the “Maryland Indian Status” of a Native American community indigenous to the State.



A tribe that wishes to receive State recognition must submit to the nine-member Maryland Commission on Indian Affairs (MCIA) a petition containing appropriate documentation. State law requires that petitioners must show through this documentation that the group has been identified as Native American from before 1790 until the present, part of a continuous Native American community from before 1790 until the present, and is indigenous to Maryland. The MCIA provides an opportunity for the public to submit comments to the petition. The MCIA then refers the petition and all comments to a Recognition Advisory Committee (RAC) for review and recommendation. The RAC consists of five persons appointed by the MCIA to review a petition. The MCIA reviews the RAC’s recommendation and, if the MCIA determines that the petition adequately satisfies the criteria in the regulations, recommends to the Governor that the petitioning group be formally recognized as a Maryland Indian tribe, band, group, or clan.



The Governor could then concur with the recommendation by signing an “Executive Order” granting Maryland Indian Status to the petition group(s). In 1995, two petitions were filed and accepted by MCIA for “Maryland Indian Status”. The Piscataway Conoy Tribe (PCT) and the Piscataway Indian Nation (PIN) filed petitions to gain State Recognition. By 2008, the Governor’s Office of Community Initiatives (GOCI) revived the petitioning process.



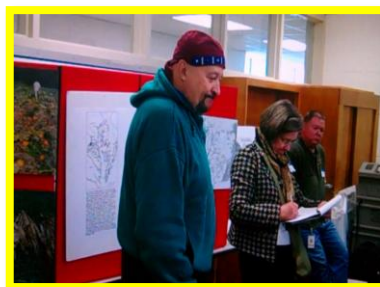
On December 8th, 2011, five members of the current MCIA voted unanimously to recommend the Piscataway Conoy Tribe and Piscataway Indian Nation petitioned for Maryland Indian Status to Governor O’Malley. The two separate and historic actions would be considered the most important votes taken by the MCIA to date.

2011 MCIA Initiatives:

American Indian Heritage Day: The day after Thanksgiving is now a Maryland State holiday in commemoration of American Indians in Maryland. On November 23, 2010, Governor Martin O'Malley hosted a reception for American Indian Heritage Day (the day after Thanksgiving) and invited not only the Maryland Commission on Indian Affairs but also, the American Indian community leaders and families of Maryland. Tribal leaders, council members and American Indians gathered to commemorate a day given to celebrate the historical, cultural and environmental contributions of Maryland's Indigenous Peoples and those who have moved within her borders.



American Indian Heritage Month Teacher Training Workshop: The first Annual Maryland Commission on Indian Affairs Heritage Month Teacher Training Workshop for Social Studies teachers was held on November 19, 2011 in St. Leonard, Maryland. Over 40 Social Studies teachers from across the State came to the workshop to learn more about Maryland's indigenous Native American communities so that they could teach Maryland students for years to come. Commissioner Wanda Lee who



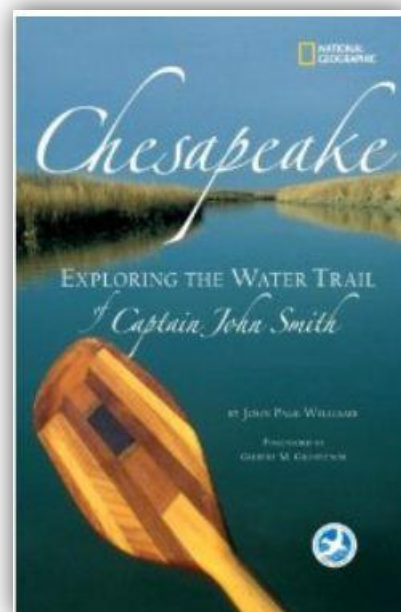
serves as the Education Committee Chair, along with committee members, brought together various tribal leaders to highlight the Indigenous groups' history that was underrepresented in Maryland's Native American curriculum. Fourth grade education in Maryland specifically touches on Native American Studies. Dr. Marcie Taylor-Thomas, Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) and Mary Davis, (AACPS)

facilitated the training. Rico Newman, Sherry Majors, Will Williams, Deborah Henry, Michael Hinman and Norris Howard assisted with tribal commentary and Maryland's native cultural activities such as story-telling, music, and weaving.



2011 MCIA Initiatives continued:

Captain John Smith Chesapeake National Water Trail: The Captain John Smith Chesapeake National Water Trail, a National Park Service initiative, invited a representative from the MCIA to join the Advisory Committee for the trail. Commissioner Virginia Busby was selected to serve a two year term. She will be the liaison for MCIA and the indigenous communities of Maryland. The representatives on the Committee advise the planning staff on the Captain John Smith Chesapeake National Water Trail. Commissioner Busby provides a report during the monthly MCIA public meetings and requests public questions and comments. For more information about this unique initiative and collaborative with the Native American community, please visit the National Park Service website: <http://www.nps.gov/cajo/index.htm>



MCIA's Working Group for an *Appropriate Place of Repose*: Jefferson Patterson Park & Museum served once again as a facility of "firsts" for MCIA. A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was signed on December 28, 2010 between the Maryland Department of Planning (MDP), the Maryland Historical



Trust (MHT) and MCIA. On March 13, 2011, members of the Working Group and interested parties gathered to bury American Indian remains at an *appropriate place of repose*. These unidentifiable remains had been stored, some for more than eighty years, in lab space at the Maryland Historical Trust. The site was selected by five members of the American Indian Community and five members of

the Maryland Historical Trust (MHT). In order to ensure that the public cannot view or access the remains placed in the *Appropriate Place of Repose* (COMAR 05.0807.09C1 and COMAR 05.08.07.09C5), MHT allowed for no visible markers to be placed on the ground surface above



the individual burial sites. A traditional American Indian ceremony was held and the Governor was in attendance. Three other locations remain to be selected in the coming year.

Maryland Commission on Indian Affairs Outreach

The Maryland Commission on Indian Affairs develops lasting relationships each year by a variety of presentations, lectures, workshops and cultural events. Each opportunity brings to life the rich heritage of American Indians living within Maryland.



Champions of Change: Five youth members of the Baltimore American Indian community were invited to the White House *Champions of Change*: Native American Youth Conference on December 1, 2011. *"They are being honored as Champions of Change because they have found unique and creative ways to address the daily challenges that face American Indians and Alaska Natives in diverse communities across America."* These leaders of tomorrow attended the 2011 White House Tribal Nations Conference to learn firsthand about the issues and challenges that are currently facing Indian Country. For more about the Native American Youth that were invited to the White House, please visit:

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/blog/2011/12/01/native-american-youth-champions-change-come-washington>

American Indian Heritage Month Celebrations: MCIA celebrated American Indian Heritage Month (2011) with a kick-off held at the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DHMH) in which over 250 people attended and concluded with an event held at the Social Security Administration (SSA), representing partnerships with State and Federal agencies.



Maryland Emergency Management Agency: MCIA along with the Governor's Office of Community Initiatives (GOCI) came to the aid of international students during Hurricane Irene providing support to MEMA at two of three temporary shelters.



MCIA commissioners and staff continue to engage every opportunity to promote American Indians and work with all Marylanders. Below is a sampling of the meetings, conferences, and cultural presentations that the Assistant Director and Commissioners participated in across Maryland and beyond in 2011.

Maryland Commission on Indian Affairs in Action

A list of events and programs with Commission Participation

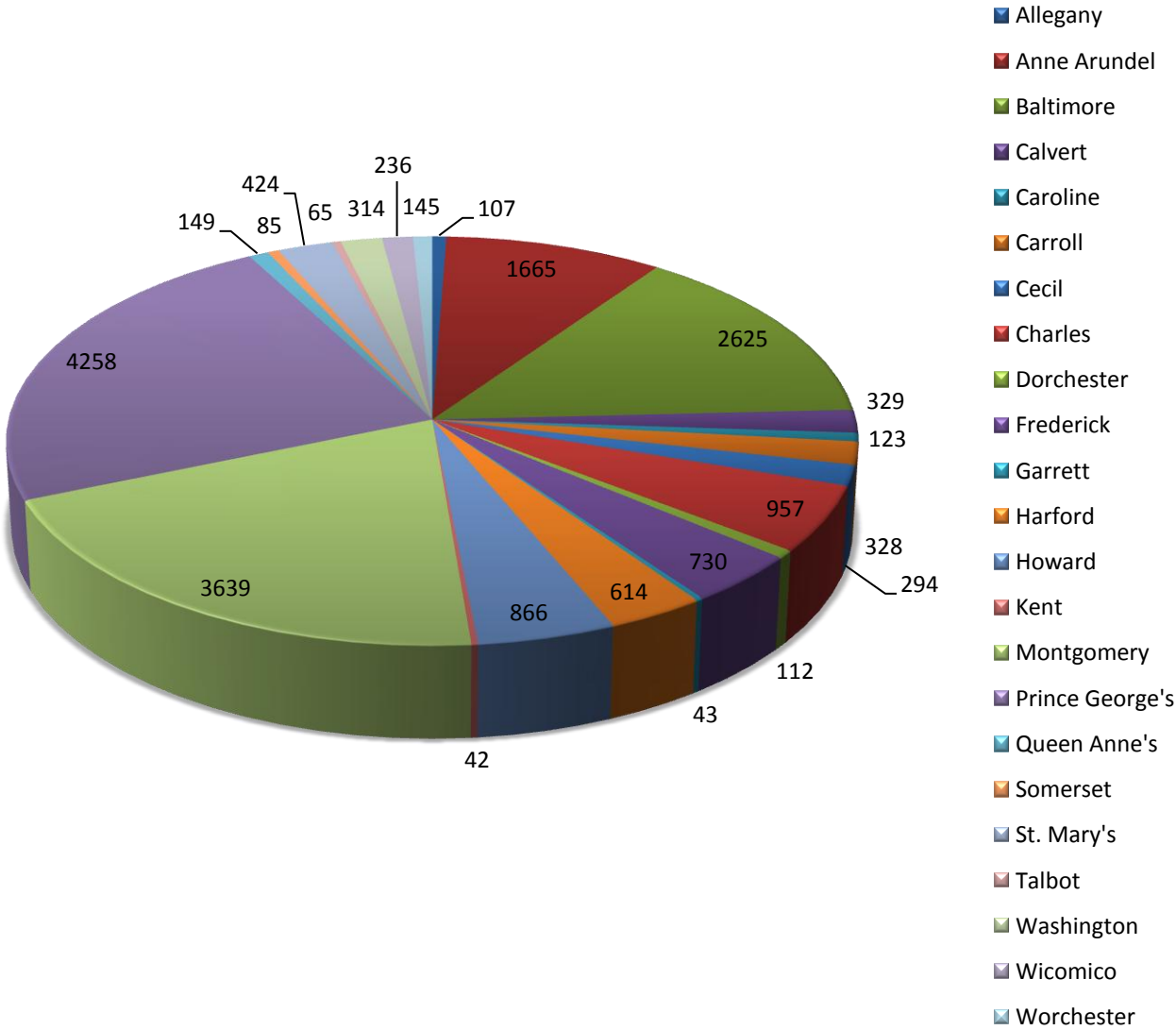
| Date | Event | Location |
|---------------|---|----------------|
| February 7 | Commission Meeting at the Department of Natural Resources | Annapolis |
| February 23 | Cultural Presentation at the Community College of Baltimore County | Catonsville |
| March 7 | Commission Meeting at the Department of Natural Resources | Annapolis |
| March 6 | Reburial Ceremony at Jefferson Patterson Park Museum | St. Leonard |
| March 10 | Meeting: Native American Entrepreneurship at Community College of Baltimore County | Catonsville |
| March 14 | State Agency Meeting: Department of Aging regarding Native American Elders, Culture, and Prevention | Baltimore |
| March 26 | Cultural Presentation: Holy Cross Professional and Community Education Center | Silver Spring |
| April 4 | Commission Meeting at the Department of Natural Resources | Annapolis |
| April 6 | Conference: Annual Native American Symposium | College Park |
| April 8 | Meeting: Repatriation working-group | Eastern Shore |
| April 9 | Conference: Maryland Multicultural Coalition | Fulton |
| April 9 | Cultural Presentation: Catonsville Elementary - World Day | Catonsville |
| April 12 | State Agency Meeting: Maryland Department of Education | Annapolis |
| April 18 & 19 | Conference: Inaugural National Native American 8(a) | Washington, DC |
| May 2 | Commission Meeting at the Dorchester Center for the Performing Arts | Cambridge |
| May 4 | State Agency Meeting: Cultural Competency Seminar, Department of Human Services | Easton |
| May 9 | State Agency Meeting: Department of Health and Mental Hygiene – Concerning Health Disparities of American Indians | Dorchester |
| June 4 & 5 | Brandywine Pow-wow – Annual Celebration, Cedarville Band of Piscataway | Waldorf |
| June 6 | Commission Meeting at the Department of Natural Resources | Annapolis |
| June 14 | Deaf-Blind Camp of Maryland Mini Pow-wow | West River |
| June 20 | State Agency Meeting: Diversity Training at Maryland Department of Transportation | Hanover |
| June 22 | Invocation- Opening of National Learning Exchange | Baltimore |
| July 6 | Media interview - Melinda Wise of Fox45 concerning the BAIC traditional Pow-wow at Timonium | Baltimore |
| July 14 | Multi-Cultural Meeting - Shanthi Srinivasachar | Gaithersburg |
| August 17 | Baltimore American Indian Center Museum Grand Opening | Baltimore |

| | | |
|-------------------|--|----------------|
| September 8 | Regional Health Equity Council Meeting -Region III National Partnership For Action to End Health Disparities | Arlington, VA |
| September 9 | Meeting - NPA Region III Health Equity Council | Arlington, VA |
| September 12 | Commission Meeting at the Dorchester Center for the Performing Arts | Cambridge |
| September 15 | Piscataway Indian Fort Unveiling with Governor O'Malley | Charles County |
| September 17 & 18 | Nause-Waiwash –Annual Celebration | Vienna |
| October 3 | Commission Meeting at the Department of Natural Resources | Annapolis |
| October 6 | Cultural presentation: United States Coast Guard | Baltimore |
| October 15 & 16 | Accohannock Pau-Wau – Annual Celebration | Marion Station |
| October 20 | Cultural Presentation: Woodbridge Elementary | Catonsville |
| October 21 | Fox45 segment for Baltimore Aquarium | Baltimore |
| November 1 | MCIA American Indian Heritage Month Kick-Off Celebration | Baltimore |
| November 4 | Cultural Presentation: Wolfe Academy | Baltimore |
| November 7 | Commission Meeting at the Dorchester Center for the Performing Arts | Cambridge |
| November 8 | American Indian Celebration at Defense of Logistics Agency | Washington DC |
| November 14 | Cultural Presentation: High Bridge Elementary | Bowie |
| November 14 | Cultural Competency Training: University of Maryland Baltimore County | Baltimore |
| November 17 | American Indian Heritage Day Event | Baltimore |
| November 21 | Cultural Presentation: Gaithersburg Youth Center | Gaithersburg |
| November 29 | American Indian Heritage Month event with Department of Human Resources | Baltimore |
| November 29 | MOTA - Annual Health Fair & Powwow at Holy Cross Hospital | Silver Spring |
| November 30 | American Indian Heritage Month event – Social Security Administration | Baltimore |
| December 8 | Conference: Georgetown University School of Nursing & Health Studies | Washington, DC |
| December 14 | Joint Commission Assembly at M&T Stadium | Baltimore |

| Percent Resident Population: American Indian and Alaska Native - 2010 | |
|---|--------------|
| Allegany | 0.14% |
| Anne Arundel | 0.31% |
| Baltimore | 0.33% |
| Calvert County | 0.37% |
| Caroline | 0.37% |
| Carroll | 0.20% |
| Cecil | 0.29% |
| Charles | 0.65% |
| Dorchester | 0.34% |
| Frederick | 0.31% |
| Garrett | 0.14% |
| Harford | 0.25% |
| Howard | 0.30% |
| Kent | 0.21% |
| Montgomery | 0.37% |
| Prince George's | 0.49% |
| Queen Anne's | 0.31% |
| Somerset | 0.32% |
| St Mary's | 0.40% |
| Talbot | 0.17% |
| Washington | 0.21% |
| Wicomico | 0.24% |
| Worcester | 0.28% |

Information based on 2010 US Census

Native American Population In Maryland by County



Information based on 2010 US Census

MARYLAND INDIGENOUS TRIBES

- **Accohannock Indian Tribe, Inc.**

Chief Rudy Laughing Otter Hall
P.O. Box 404
Marion, Maryland 21838
410-623-2660
accohannock@verizon.net

- **Assateague Peoples Tribe**

Chief Larry Medicine Cat Smack
P.O. Box 63
Frankford, Delaware 19945
mancat732@aol.com

- **Cedarville Band of Piscataway Indians**

Tribal Chair Natalie Proctor
American Indian Cultural Center
16816 Country Lane
Waldorf, Maryland 20601
piscatawayindians@yahoo.com
info@piscatawayindians.org
www.piscatawayindians.org

- **Nause-Waiwash Band of Indians, Inc.**

Chief Sewell E. Winterhawk Fitzhugh
2363 Elliott Island Road
Vienna, Maryland 21869

- **Piscataway Conoy Confederacy and Sub-Tribes, Inc.**

Tribal Chair Mervin Savoy
P.O. Box 1484
LaPlata, Maryland 20646
msavoy9836@aol.com

- **Piscataway Indian Nation, Inc.**

Chief William Red Wing Tayac
P.O. Box 312
Port Tobacco, Maryland 20677
301-932-0808
redwing60@aol.com
www.piscatawaynation.org

- **Pocomoke Indian Tribe, Inc.**

Chief John End of Trail Howard
88 Sommers Cove Apartments
Crisfield, Maryland 21917

- **Youghiogheny River Band of Shawnee Indians, Inc.**

Chief Joseph Neale
6110 Melvern Drive
Bethesda, Maryland 20817
301-530-5281